

Free and Open Access to Data/Information An Academic/Research Viewpoint

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ABSTRACT

The fundamental objective of education and research is to educate leaders and informed citizenship of today and tomorrow while advancing the understanding of science in support of the public. This is done through active partnerships with: academia, government, private enterprise, international organizations, and citizenship. The partnership agenda is based on effective communications at all levels. There are a number of challenges associated with pursuing this agenda, including effective communications, information exchange, and technology transfer.

Imperatives for effective partnerships include the following:

- Understanding state of the science.
- Defining goals to reduce uncertainties.
- Establishing timetables needed to achieve goals.
- Delineating (and acquiring) infrastructure, resources, policies, and research.
- Coordinating work among partners.
- Transferring the resultant research findings to operational platforms.

Partnerships involving universities present special challenges, including the following:

- Understanding the value added by university partnerships.
- Communicating at and across all levels.
- Developing and maintaining inventories of comprehensive, accessible, validated databases.
- Establishing policies to provide the university access to data.